Message Text

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DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-11 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, US, GE

SUBJECT: US CONCERN OVER GDR FISHING ACTIVITIES OFF PACIFIC COAST

REF: STATE 028732

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM WASHINGTON STATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER GDR HERRING

FISHING ACTIVITIES OFF THE NORTHERN WASHINGTON COAST.

LETTER NOTES THAT HERRING ARE VITAL FOOD FISH FOR CAREFULLY

MANAGED FISH STOCKS IN NORTHWEST PACIFIC, INCLUDING CHINOOK

AND COHO SALMON. POLAND RECENTLY AGREED TO REFRAIN FROM

TAKING HERRING IN THIS AREA FOR ABOVE REASONS AND STATE

OF WASHINGTON REQUESTS DEPARTMENT TO EXPRESS STRONGEST US

CONCERN TO GDR OVER ITS HERRING FISHING ACTIVITIES.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS RESPONDED TO WASHINGTON STATE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT NOTING THAT WE SHARE CONCERN OVER THIS MATTER AND WILL MAKE FORMAL REQUEST TO THE GDR THAT IT CEASE HERRING FISHING OFF THE PACIFIC COAST.

DEPARTMENT WILL TRANSMIT FOLLOWING AIDE-MEMOIRE TO GDR $\mathsf{FMBASSY}^{\cdot}$

BEGIN QUOTE: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERS TO A MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED STATES HELD IN WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 3, 1976.

AMONG THE SUBJECTS RAISED AT THAT MEETING WAS COOPERATION AT THIS TIME IN THE CONSERVATION OF FISH STOCKS OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WISHES TO EMPHASIZE ITS SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE APPARENT DEVELOPMENT OF AN EAST GERMAN HERRING FISHERY OFF THE NORTHERN WASHINGTON COAST. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, TWO EAST GERMAN STERN TRAVLERS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A SPECIFIC FISHERY FOR HERRING IN THAT AREA DURING DECEMBER 1975 AND EARLY JANUARY 1976.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC SHOULD BE AWARE THAT HERRING SUPPORT CAREFULLY MANAGED FISHERIES IN THIS COASTAL AREA, SERVING AS FORAGE TO MANY SPECIES SUCH AS CHINOOK AND COHO SALMON. THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS SPECIES IS SUCH THAT IT WAS RECENTLY ADDED TO A LIST OF SPECIES THAT POLAND HAS AGREED TO REFRAIN FROM FISHING OFF THE PACIFIC COAST. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE GENERAL CONDITION OF GROUNDFISH STOCKS IN THIS REGION ARE IN A STATE OF REDUCED ABUNDANCE BECAUSE OF OVERFISHING, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REQUESTS THAT THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC INFORM APPROPRIATE GDR FISHERIES AUTHORITIES OF U.S. CONCERN AND THAT THESE FISHING VESSELS BE WITHDRAWN AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. END QUOTE.

4. COPIES OF AIDE-MEMOIRE AND ABOVE DESCRIBED)
CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE POUCHED TO EMBASSY.	KISSINGER

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